

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JUL 01 2009

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1 - 15 cancelled

16. (currently amended) A camera system, suited for an environmental detection system of a vehicle, the system comprising:

an image sensor;

an optics element for guiding incident light to said image sensor;

an optics carrier to which said optics element is mounted, said optics carrier defining a contact surface; and

a retaining frame disposed between and cooperating with said image sensor and said optics carrier, said retaining frame defining a bearing surface extending substantially parallel to a plane of said image sensor, said bearing surface contacting and supporting said contact surface of said optics carrier, wherein, in an adjustment position, said optics carrier is displaceably held in a plane of said bearing surface for subsequent fixing in a target position;

means for facilitating displacement of said contact surface of said optics carrier on said bearing surface of said retaining frame until a target position of said optics element relative to said image sensor has been reached; and

means for permanently fixing said optics carrier to said retaining frame.

17. (currently amended) The camera system of claim 16, wherein said facilitating means comprise pretensioning means disposed on said

retaining frame or said optics carrier, said comprise-pretensioning means being structured and dimensioned ~~which are suited to~~ urge said optics carrier against said bearing surface.

18. (previously presented) The camera of claim 17, wherein said pretensioning means comprise elastically resilient members which overlap said bearing surface or said contact surface and which at least partially extend perpendicularly with respect to said bearing surface or said contact surface to engage behind sections of said optics carrier or of said retaining frame.
19. (previously presented) The camera system of claim 17, wherein said pretensioning means have recesses effecting elastic resilience.
20. (previously presented) The camera system of claim 16, wherein said retaining frame is structured to permanently connect said optics carrier to retaining frame in said target position.
21. (previously presented) The camera system of claim 16, wherein said retaining frame or said optics carrier are made from a first plastic material and at least sections of said optics carrier or said retaining frame are made from a second optically transparent plastic material, wherein said bearing surface is subsequently welded to said contact surface of said retaining frame to form a permanent connection.
22. (previously presented) The camera system of claim 17, wherein at least two sides of said bearing surface or said contact surface comprise delimiting elements.

23. (previously presented) The camera system of claim 22, wherein said contact surface of said optics carrier is displaced onto said bearing surface via a side having no delimiting elements.
24. (previously presented) The camera system of claim 22, wherein said pretensioning means are disposed on said at least two delimiting elements.
25. (previously presented) The camera system of claim 16, wherein said bearing surface is larger than said contact surface.
26. (previously presented) The camera system of claim 16, further comprising a circuit board on which said image sensor and/or said retaining frame are disposed.
27. (previously presented) A retaining frame or an optics carrier for the camera system of claim 16.
28. (currently amended) A method for adjusting an optics carrier, bearing an optics element, relative to an image sensor, wherein a retaining frame defines a bearing surface which is substantially parallel to a plane of the image sensor, the optics carrier having a contact surface for abutment against the bearing surface, the method comprising the steps of:
 - a) displacing the contact surface of the optics carrier on the bearing surface of the retaining frame until a target position of the optics element ~~or of the optics carrier~~, relative to the image sensor ~~or retaining frame~~, has been reached; and
 - b) permanently fixing the optics carrier to the retaining frame.

29. (previously presented) The method of claim 28, wherein a suitable test image is projected onto the optics element to determine the target position, wherein the displacement of step a) is continued until a position of the test image corresponds to an image of the target position recorded by the image sensor.
30. (previously presented) The method of claim 28, wherein permanent fixing is effected through welding and/or gluing.